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Bay Area Climate Protection Summit November 10, 2006 Youth Discussion Summary of Ideas

Moderators:

Jim Callahan

ClimateChangeEducation.org

(510) 595-3677

james@climatechangeeducation.org

Nia Robinson

Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative

(510) 444-3041

nrobinson@rprogress.org

What actions in the next 12 months will promote positive climate change initiatives in the Bay Area: the youth perspective.

Solutions shared fall into the following areas:

- There needs to be umbrella youth organizations to pool resources and connect young leaders in the climate change community.
- Multimedia expression should be used to influence the younger generation.
- Promote education for everyone concerning climate change.
- Promote a change in lifestyle

Goal: There needs to be umbrella youth organizations to pool resources and connect young leaders in the climate change community.

Solutions:

- Youth summit with in the Bay Area to take place in the next twelve months.
- Website to let people know about resources, educational materials, internship opportunities, and local events.
- Institutionalize the good practices that have been developed by various youth organizations.
- Start district wide programs in schools, not just one school at a time.

Goal: Multimedia expression should be used to influence the younger generation.

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Solutions:

- Home videos about local impacts of climate change.
- Flash videos which are educational and entertaining for online viewing.
- Art contests to portray the message in new ways which speak to the youth.
- Show videos like Al Gore's in the schools.
- Create posters to educate the public about what they can do.

Goal: Promote education for everyone concerning climate change.

Solutions:

- Have an interdisciplinary climate change curriculum that meets California State standards.
- Start young, focus on elementary school.
- Have educational materials available for teachers on the web.
- Make the learning fun, and have a broad definition of success.

Goal: Promote a change in lifestyle.

Solutions:

- Family and community education programs.
- Monthly walk to school days.
- Home and school energy audits.
- Invest in solar.
- Calculate and offset emissions.